

According to Expert Bulla who was so positive in his assertion that Mrs. McDowell wrote all of the letters, it would have been a physical impossibility for Miss Mitchell to have so disguised her writing as to write either of the letters.

An additional postal was introduced into the case yesterday. It was recovered by a detective and was turned over to Coroner Taylor in the morning. It was written to the real estate firm of Chaffin and Company and threatened that unless the Perkins family moved several good reasons for the same. The postal was mailed October 19, at 6 P. M., the same date as a postal received by Mrs. Perkins, and which had previously been introduced as evidence. It was addressed to "R. B. Chaffin, No. 1, North Tenth Street, City," and reads as follows:

"Mr. Chaffin—I will write to you to tell you that if Mrs. Perkins remains in the neighborhood you will be short of a few tenants or Federal. There is plenty of room for good work by the officers," said Commonwealth's Attorney Richardson, after the jury adjourned.

"It is one of the most puzzling cases I have ever known, and the first case of phosphorus that in all of my forty years of experience as clerk, as Coroner Taylor last night, 'phosphorus is a poison seldom used with the intent to kill any one. I have made analyses for the poison before, but never found any until this case. It is rather remarkable in this particular."

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Answering the direct question from Dr. Taylor, Mr. Perkins said: "I think the two children were poisoned."

"Why do you think Mrs. Bryant poisoned them?"

"I think so because when I left home they were well and when I came back they were sick, and my wife told me Mrs. Bryant was the last place they had gone to before their sickness."

"Do you know whether they ate anything at Mrs. Bryant's?"

"I was in the next room to that Octavia was sick in, and I heard her say that she had eaten a piece of candy and some chewing gum at Mrs. Bryant's."

"Whom did you hear ask Octavia what she had eaten?"

"Beulah Connell; she asked Octavia where she had eaten."

"Continuing the witness said that Mrs. Bryant never appeared to like Octavia, but that he had never noticed any disposition on her part to injure any of the children."

For six weeks at one time Mrs. Bryant did not speak to any one at his home. After this she was very friendly, and Mrs. Bryant helped nurse both children in their last sickness.

No Reason Known.

"I know of no real reason why Mrs. Bryant should have killed the children," answered Mr. Perkins, when questioned along this line. He said that he had never seen any poison in his house, with the exception of laudanum and carbolic acid. There had never been any rat paste or dog medicine or anything of the kind in the house.

Asked about the sickness of Willie, he replied that the child's breath was of the odor of onions and matches stirred up together. He held the child for a while, and it was nauseated.

Witness came home from work and found that Octavia was sick like Willie, and he smelled like matches and onions.

This odor was in the clothing for several days, and even after the clothes were washed in water, the smell of "onions and matches" remained.

Dr. Taylor asked witness if he had ever noticed anything about his wife that would lead him to believe that her mind was unbalanced. Mr. Perkins replied that he had not, mentioning a letter of Octavia's mother, which he said he had heard his wife say once that her mother's mind was once unbalanced and that she tried to hurt her. My wife was about twelve years old when this occurred. My wife's mother was afterwards sent to an asylum.

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"Mr. Perkins how long was your dog sick?"

"The first. I noticed about him was that he was down. Mrs. Bryant never went in the yard where the dog was sick. She

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Step by step we've raised the standard of our clothing.

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Step in and see the styles for "High-steppers."

Our Suits, Top Coats, Overcoats and Rain Coats all start at \$10.00, and \$10.00 cannot buy better garments. Same way with the better grades that run up to \$30.00 and \$40.00.

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thought I was pranking. Whenever parties ever were friendly. The interview was not stormy. I did not say anything harsh to her. Her husband came to my house on Fourth Street and showed me the postal. This was before the interview with Mrs. Perkins. I said nothing to Mrs. Perkins about consulting a lawyer nor did I make any threats of any kind."

Did Not Send Lunch.

Miss Mitchell blushed furiously when she denied sending any hot lunch or fried chicken to Mr. Perkins. It was mentioned in one of the anonymous letters that Mr. Perkins had been receiving fried chicken from some one. Miss Mitchell said that during Mrs. Perkins' illness with pneumonia she had taken things to eat to the entire family. She emphatically denied all knowledge of the anonymous correspondence, except the one postal, which she had been charged with writing.

"Have you ever noticed anything very peculiar about Mrs. Perkins?" asked Coroner Taylor.

"Nothing more than that she loves to talk a lot about people."

"That is a weakness of the sex, I think, miss," exclaimed the coroner in his dry manner. And then, as if an afterthought, he turned to Mr. Richardson, and said: "I have heard dumb women, but never saw one; did you, David?"

The Commonwealth's attorney admitted that he had never seen such a sight.

Miss Mitchell said that she had met Mrs. Bryant in the morning while waiting as a witness for the coroner's jury. This was the first time she had ever spoken to Mrs. Bryant.

"I stopped going to Mrs. Perkins' because I didn't think they were my equals. Mrs. Perkins was never at my house, except when with his wife. I am not aware of any jealousy that might have existed."

At 2:15 P. M. the jury took a recess until 4 o'clock. Mrs. Bryant had not been called.

Mrs. McDowell Testifies.

Mrs. Mamie Estelle McDowell, widow of Mr. B. C. McDowell, was the first witness called after recess. When she had taken the oath, Coroner Taylor explained to her that inasmuch as she had been accused of the poisoning of the two children, it was not obligatory upon her to testify to anything.

"You have no law to present, and I want to tell you that it is entirely discretionary with you as to whether you shall give any testimony or not," said the coroner.

"I am perfectly willing to tell everything I know about the case. If you ask me anything, I will answer that," replied Mrs. McDowell.

"You have sometimes been called Mrs. Bryant, have you not?"

"The Perkins family stated that I am Mrs. McDowell, and am known by no other name."

Richardson here required the witness to write according to his dictation. The same postal card that Miss Mitchell had copied in the morning was dictated to her, and she copied it. Mrs. McDowell labored with the dictation. She writes with some difficulty, her penmanship is poor, and she is slow.

"My relations with the family have always been pleasant. Mrs. Perkins has always minded my baby when I went out. I knew all the children. Little Willie was at my house nearly every day; all of the children were running in and out of the house."

The First Child.

"The child was not taken sick in my house. One day Mrs. Perkins told me that the child was sick and wouldn't eat anything. Mrs. Perkins brought him to my house, and I crushed up some ice for him. The child was not seriously ill then—just complaining a little. This was before the Perkins family went to the country. They spent four days at Mr. Perkins' home in the country. They came home on account of the sickness of the child. I saw the child several times each day of the week of his death. All of the children would come to my house. Little Willie would very often come by himself. Mrs. Perkins always came with him. During that week (meaning the week preceding the child's death) I didn't give him anything to eat, for he wouldn't eat anything. But before this I always gave the children any little something to eat. I happened to have in the house at the time they

"Was it on this general threat of yours that Mrs. Bryant had you arrested?"

"I don't know, sir; I never spoke to her, and was not at her house that evening."

"As I was passing in front of Mr. Bryant's house he asked what all the excitement was about, and I told him that I was looking for a house to live in. He said that he was looking for a house to live in, and that if I knew who murdered those little children I would kill them then. I requested Mr. Bryant to make his wife stop bringing reports to my daughter about other people. On Thursday night (October 18th) Mrs. Bryant came to my house. She was in a very excited state, and she was crying. In conversation, she seemed to be trying to place the poisoning on a neighbor, Mrs. Hulcher. This was the cause of the row."

His Wife Once Insane.

Replying to questions about his wife's insanity, Mr. Johnson said that the death of a little child had caused his wife to lose her mind. She was weak and the shock of the death of the child made her lose her reason, he said. He had heard that his wife had attempted to injure her daughter, Emma (Mrs. Perkins), but did not know this. She remained in the asylum three months and six days. She lived eleven years after coming out of the asylum, and never showed any signs of insanity again. Mr. Johnson left the stand at 1:30 o'clock.

Miss Mitchell On Stand.

Miss Abbie Rice Mitchell was called. She gave her address as 315 North Ninth Street, and said that she had lived in Richmond for about two years. I once lived on Federal Street. I have a public school education. She was made to write, at the dictation of Mr. Richardson, the following: "Mrs. Perkins, I truly feel sorry for you so I will let you know who is doing you wrong, but of course I will have to keep my name so as to keep out of it. Monday morning I went to see, and met."

This was a copy of one of the postals received by Mrs. Perkins. Miss Mitchell writes a plain hand, but is not rapid, and appeared to be unaccustomed to writing. Her writing does not correspond with that of the woman who wrote the postal. Mrs. Perkins accused me of writing a letter to her. When I heard this I, in company with Mrs. Bath and Mrs. Bass, went to see Mrs. Perkins. She met me and I explained to her that I was not the person who wrote the postal. She said she did not see me and that she did not know me."

THE SECRET OF YOUTH.

De Soto looked for the secret of youth in a bottle of gushing, life-giving waters, which he was sure he would find in the New World. Alchemists and sages (thousands of them) have spent their lives in the search for it, but it is only found by those happy people who can digest and assimilate the right food, which keeps the physical body perfect, that peace and comfort are the sure results.

A remarkable man, as he says: "For many long years I suffered more or less from chronic constipation and painful indigestion. This condition made life a great burden to me, as you may well imagine."

"Two years ago I began to use Grape-Nuts as food, and am thankful that I did. It has been a blessing to me in every way. I first noticed that it had restored my digestion. This was a great gain, but was nothing to compare in importance with the fact that in a short time my bowels were restored to free and normal action."

"The cure seemed to be complete; for two years I have had none of the old trouble. I use the Grape-Nuts food every morning for breakfast, and frequently eat nothing else. The use has made me comfortable and happy, and although I will be 61 years old next fall, I have become strong and supple again, erect in figure, and can walk with anybody and enjoy it. There's a reason."

Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in every drug store.

Left Baby at Perkins's.

"I got home about 11:30 from up-town, where I went to pay rent, and went to the Perkins house to get my baby. Mrs. Perkins said to me, after I got there, 'I had a letter from Octavia this morning. She said she was sick, and I heard that she was in the morning. Presently Octavia came in, and said her head and stomach hurt her. The child said she had been at the home of a colored person all the morning. She lay in the dining-room door with her head out, leaving Mrs. Perkins to eat her dinner, and turn-

DO YOU